

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A user interface for a spreadsheet computer program comprising:
a spreadsheet display having rows and columns of cells;
a cursor operable by a user input which indicates at least one currently selected cell;
and
a cell edit line which allows the user to enter a mathematical expression with a sequence of entries, wherein the user interface stores the results of the mathematical expression in the selected cell but not the mathematical expression and displays the result in the cell.
2. The user interface of Claim 1, wherein an entry preceded with a "+" or "=" sign is stored as an expression or formula and the result displayed in the cell.
3. The user interface of Claim 2, wherein an entry preceded with a special symbol is stored as text and the text displayed in the cell.
4. The user interface of Claim 3, wherein the special symbol is selected from the following: a quotation mark, and space.

5. A handheld computing device comprising:

- a screen capable of displaying spreadsheet rows and columns for a spreadsheet application;

- an input device for operating the computing device and entering user responses;

- a processor for executing programming that provides a user interface to the spreadsheet application wherein the user interface further comprises:

 - a cursor operable by user input through the input device, wherein the cursor indicates at least one currently selected cell; and

 - a cell edit line which allows the user to enter a mathematical expression with a sequence of entries, wherein the user interface stores the results of the mathematical expression in the selected cell but not the mathematical expression and displays the result in the cell.

6. The handheld computing device of Claim 5, wherein an entry preceded with a “+” or “=” sign is stored as an expression or formula and the result displayed in the cell

7. The handheld computing device of Claim 5, wherein an entry preceded with a special symbol is stored as text and the text displayed in the cell.

8. The handheld computing device of Claim 7, wherein the special symbol is selected from the following: a quotation mark, and space.

9. A graphing calculator comprising:

- a screen capable of displaying spreadsheet rows and columns for a spreadsheet application;

- an input device for operating the computing device and entering user responses;

- a processor for executing programming that provides a user interface to the spreadsheet application wherein the user interface further comprises:

 - a cursor operable by user input through the input device, wherein the cursor indicates at least one currently selected cell; and

 - a cell edit line which allows the user to enter a mathematical expression with a sequence of entries, wherein the programming stores the results of the mathematical expression in the selected cell but not the mathematical expression and displays the result in the cell.

10. The device of Claim 9, wherein an entry preceded with a "+" or "=" sign is stored as an expression or formula and the result displayed in the cell

11. The device of Claim 9, wherein an entry preceded with a special symbol is stored as text and the text displayed in the cell.

12. The device of Claim 11, wherein the special symbol is selected from the following: a quotation mark, and space.